

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,181,435 (Onodera) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,901,278 (Kurihara). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In the image processing apparatus of claim 1, after the compressed image data corresponding to a page of the document is stored in the storage medium, the controller determines whether the storage medium can store further image data corresponding to a page of the document given for the next image processing. When the storage medium cannot store further, the controller changes the processing applied by the image data processor and the compression rate applied by the compressor to the processed image data so that image data corresponding to all pages of the document can be stored in the storage medium. Applicant already presented this explanation of the claimed apparatus in the Amendment filed September 9, 2005.

Specifically, claim 1 states that the processing and the compression rate applied are changed so that image data corresponding to all pages of the document can be stored in the storage medium. Thus, once the claimed adjustment is made, all pages of the document are scanned and the image data of all pages is stored in the storage medium in the next document scanning. In other words, only one document scanning is required to scan in the entire document once the claimed adjustment is made. The Examiner admits that Onodera fails to disclose the claimed controller implementing this adjustment. However, he contends that Kurihara teaches the claimed adjustment at column 9, lines 53-65, and FIG. 5. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Kurihara's apparatus scans a document page by page, compresses the captured image page by page at a compression rate specified at the beginning of the document scan and stores the compressed images one by one in the memory. However, "when image data overflows the

memory capacity, the control section 26 automatically switches the compression ratio to higher level for line images and characters.” The document scan starts again from the first page of the document with the higher compression rate. See, column 9, lines 53-65, of Kurihara. This is all Kurihara teaches as to how the compression rate should be adjusted. No part of Kurihara teaches or suggests that the processing and the compression rate are changed so that image data corresponding to all pages of the document can be stored in the storage medium, as claimed. Absent such a teaching, persons of ordinary skill in the art would have understood Kurihara’s apparatus to repeat the adjustment of the compression rate every time the memory overflows. This is clearly shown in the looped process flow of FIG. 5, which is relied upon by the Examiner. Applicant points out that without a specific scheme to achieve the claimed adjustment to store the image of all pages of a document, such as the embodiment of claim 4, persons of ordinary skill in the art would not have broken the loop of the process flow shown in Kurihara’s FIG. 5 to produce the claimed adjustment.

Claim 11 recites the adjustment of claim 1 in a method claim format. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 under 35 USC 103(a) over Onodera and Kikuchi should be withdrawn because Onodera and Kikuchi together do not teach or suggest the claimed invention as a whole.

The remaining rejections rely on Onodera and Kimura and thus should be withdrawn as well because Onodera and Kimura do not provide the teachings for which they are cited.

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

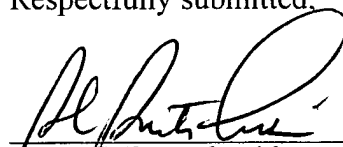
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for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952, referencing Docket No. 325772023100.

Respectfully submitted,

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